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THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Final

REFUGEE MASSACRE IN CAUCASUS

Big German Transports Shot Down In Tunisia

Associated Press Bulletins

BOAT VICTIM
BOSTON.—(AP)—Thirty-four members of the crew of an American merchant vessel apparently went down with their craft when it was torpedoed by an enemy submarine early in March. The Navy announced today, after the landing of 25 survivors in Boston.

NAZI MAYOR KILLED
LONDON.—(AP)—The Nazi Mayor of the Dutch town of Rotterdam, in southeastern Holland near the German frontier, was shot and killed by unknown assailants Tuesday night, the German-controlled Netherlands radio reported today in a broadcast reported by Ansa.

WALSH SUPPORTS VETO
WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Senator Walsh, Democrat, Massachusetts, frequent critic of the Administration, said today he will vote to support the President's veto of the Bankhead Bill, as a step to prevent inflation.

SOFIA GETS A PURGING
The Berlin radio broadcast today a Sofia dispatch reporting that a police raid on the city of undesirable elements, arresting 37 persons, including 20 women and 15 Jews. The broadcast was recorded by the Associated Press.

STRIKERS LOSE 'E'
NEW KENSINGTON, Pa.—(AP)—The American Company of America disclosed today that the Army-Navy "E" award to the New Kensington plant has been withdrawn by the Navy because of loss of production hours due to strikes.

DE GAULLE GETS GABES
LONDON.—(AP)—The Fighting French announced today that Gabes in Tunisia had pledged allegiance to General Charles De Gaulle.

RAIDERS CLASH WITH JAPANESE
CHUNGKING.—(AP)—A Chinese raiding party of about 100 miles behind Japanese lines in the coastal province of Shantung, has been engaged in a hot battle with 3,000 of the enemy, the Chinese commune said today.

SEVEN DIE IN FIRE
GREENVILLE, Miss.—(AP)—Mrs. Ernest R. Peyton and her six children, ranging in ages from one to nine years, burned to death late last night when fire of unknown origin destroyed their four-room farm home near Catfords, Miss.

HITLER ADMIRER TO PRISON
LONDON.—(AP)—A man who wrote to the German legation in Dublin expressing a willingness to work for the Reich was given a life sentence today by the Old Bailey. The letter was intercepted by censorship. The maximum sentence was imposed on William Frederick Craven, 25-year-old farm laborer and avowed admirer of Adolf Hitler.

FROWNS ON DUAL PROGRAM
WASHINGTON.—(AP)—War Production Chief Donald M. Nelson said today "no dual production program, military as separate from civilian, can be efficiently carried out." He made the statement in testimony before the Senate Banking Committee on legislation to set up an office of civilian supply separate from the War Production Board.

APPEAL TO STRIKERS
WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The War Labor Board sent a written appeal today to striking seafood workers at Boston to return to work immediately.

WEATHER

Slightly colder tonight.

Today's Temp.: H. 65; L. 47
Sunset Today: 7:48
Sunrise Tomorrow: 7:01

Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 7.

Kuban Delta Area Scene Of Mounting Offensive

Russians Claim New Success

By EDDY GILMORE
MOSCOW.—(AP)—The Red Army's glowing offensive in the Kuban Delta continued today with new successes against the Germans who are fighting back stubbornly in an attempt to hold their bridgehead along the Black Sea coast in the North Caucasus.

The military communique said the Russians shelled large German defense positions with big Soviet guns, destroying more than 60 enemy firing points.

An earlier dispatch said the Red Army had fought its way into a strip of territory strongly fortified by the enemy, another reference to the major objective.

RUSSAINS GAIN GROUND
The Germans now hold no more than 2,800 square miles in the Kuban and daily they are losing more. The Soviet map of the entire front published last week showed the Russian line beginning at Novorossisk.

This and current dispatches show it possible that the Red Army already is giving the Nazis at the Black Sea port added worries.

This Kuban country itself offers many natural obstacles to speedy progress, including salt marshes and swamps.

The Kuban River is wide and at this time of year overflows its banks, flooding or washing away many roads.

The best highway is the one which runs from Krasnodar out to the Kerch Strait. Part of this road is in Red Army hands and part is held by the Germans.

The area which includes the Kuban Delta also is known as the Taman Peninsula. The town of Taganrog, on the southern tip of the peninsula, is a town of 4,000 in an area which was the scene of recent fighting.

The shores of Taman Peninsula are easily navigable, if the Germans have any material success. They could use boats or rafts to switch defensive units by water rather than by land, making it difficult to land overland transportation.

South of Izyum, the Germans kept up their sharp attacks on Soviet positions along the Donets River. Their tanks were aided by dive bombers but achieved no material success.

Armored Unit Gets First Citation For Bravery In Africa

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA.—(AP)—For gallantry at Oran in the face of terrific odds, General Dwight D. Eisenhower issued a citation today—the first given to an American unit in the North African Theater—to the Third Battalion of the Sixth Armored Infantry Regiment of the First Armored Division.

The citation, which permits the four companies in the honored battalion to carry blue streamers on their company standards, praised their "outstanding display of duty in action Nov. 8, 1942."

"Charged with the seizure of port installations at Oran, the Battalion entered the harbor aboard two cutters in the face of powerful shore batteries and enemy ships at anchor," the citation said.

Meat Black Market Reported In Jersey

Federal Grand Jury Indicts Seven Firms and Eleven Individuals

NEWARK, N. J.—(AP)—New Jersey headquarters of the Office of Price Administration announced today seven Mid-West and New Jersey corporations and eleven individuals had been indicted here on charges of conspiracy to violate Federal Regulations governing meat prices and quotas.

Nathan L. Jacobs, chief attorney for the State OPA headquarters, said today the indictments, returned by a Federal Grand Jury here last Tuesday and impounded since then, charged the defendants with conspiring to violate Federal Regulations governing meat prices and quotas.

The Government charges for violating in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut more than 10,000,000 pounds of "Black Market" beef and veal between Dec. 10 and Jan. 31.

The defendants named in the indictments are: The Eukay Packing Co., Inc., Nathan Krupnick and George Morat of Paterson, N. J.; The Super Packing Co., Inc., State Packing Co., Inc., Peter Golas and Morris Freund of Chicago.

Sam and Albert Simon, Jacob Schmitt, the U. S. Packing Co., Inc. and the Kansas City Dressed Beef Co., Inc. of Kansas City, Mo.; Leo Waxenberg, Samuel E. Jacobs, Jacob R. Cohen and the Jacobs Brothers of New York City; Herbert C. Lieberman and the Lieberman Packing Co., Inc. of Green Bay, Wis.

Seven enemy warships and five cargo vessels had previously been sunk or damaged by U. S. Navy submarines. Kavring raids, Reconnaissance yesterday, however, disclosed that the enemy had returned to the area. A light Japanese cruiser, probably one of those hit Sunday, was reported washed up on the beach.

Meanwhile, Gen. MacArthur's far-ranging bombers struck in a three-day assault on the Japanese base at Buna Island, at the northern tip of the Solomon Islands. Enemy targets at Salamaua, Timika Bay, in Dutch New Guinea; Vunakanov, in New Britain; and Madang, Pischelhafen and Saldor. In Allied armies said they also scored near misses with 500-pound bombs on a 4,000-ton Japanese cargo ship at Sekar Bay, in Dutch New Guinea.

Farm Bloc Faces Loss Of Contest Over Veto

Bankhead Bill's Opposition Gains

By JACK BELL
WASHINGTON.—(AP)—In one of the sharpest votes behind Capitol Hill has seen in years, the Administration appeared today to be within striking distance of winning approval for President Roosevelt's veto of the Bankhead Bill.

Scanting the possibility of a major victory over the Farm Bloc, leaders pushed for an early showdown on the measure, which would prohibit the deduction of Government benefit payments in fixing partly price ceiling.

They needed only one-third of the votes cast to kill the measure, which the President said might set aside the whole idea of inflation. On the basis of last-minute news counts, the measure appeared to have been largely won by a vote of 18 to 2.

As an instance, Senator Taft, Republican, Ohio, who has not yet committed himself on the veto, said in a statement today that he was leaning toward the measure.

On the other side, farm organization leaders have been urging in person on Senators who they felt might be weakened in their stand for enactment of a constitutional amendment to prohibit any farm price control.

During the day the Agriculture Committee brought Price Administrator Harold Brown before for testimony under threat of subpoena and then voted to excuse him until Thursday morning.

Brown, Secretary of Agriculture, was called to appear after Agriculture Chairman Smith described his failure to appear as a refusal and raised the possibility of subpoenaing him.

The committee met to consider the Administration-opposed Price Bill to include farm labor costs in computation of parity prices. "Disrespect toward a Senate Committee" was charged by Brown and Vice President Charles McNary, aides of the two officials declined this.

Price Bill would raise living costs 10 to 12 per cent and the Office of Price Administration issued a lengthy analysis of the Bankhead measure last night contending it would boost retail prices by 10 to 15 per cent.

"In keeping with the immortal spirit of Jefferson," the Senator said, "the Michigan State Legislature has just adopted a resolution in which the Legislature declared its devotion to the preservation of American democracy."

"It occurs to me that Congress, as part of its share in this Jeffersonian celebration, might well dramatize its own fidelity to this basic tradition by making the great Jeffersonian anniversary the occasion for initiating the Jeffersonian action which the Michigan Legislature seeks."

See SENATE MAY on page 7



TOO BIG FOR ARMED FORCES—Paul McDonald, 24-year-old life guard, who tops on the scales at Miami Beach to 400 pounds, was taken here by the U. S. Navy for a movie. But a Hollywood movie studio is looking for a big fellow with a 4-P classification to play the role of U. S. "Quo Vadis," and so gave McDonald an invitation to take a screen test.

RAF Planes Hit Nazi Cargo Ships

Vast Damage in Europe Results From Allied Raids

LONDON.—(AP)—RAF fighters and Royal Navy planes attacked enemy shipping off the French coast last night, damaging three merchant vessels and two small escorting craft, the Air Ministry News Service announced today, but Germany and Occupied Europe apparently were given a respite after 72 hours of terrific pounding by Allied airmen.

One Navy plane, the News Service said, bombed one medium and two small ships about ten miles north of Dieppe, hitting the largest with all its bombs and setting the leading craft afire.

Four enemy "R-boats" were reported attacked with cannon fire, flames and flashes of flame were said to have followed hits on two of them.

Although many continental radio stations went off the air during the night, suggesting that RAF bombers might again be overhead, the British failed to issue the early morning report which usually follows any major aerial operations.

Brin, which has been alert for possible German reprisals, also had a raid-free night. The German-controlled Paris newspaper, reported that "large fires and great destruction" were caused in Antwerp by the big force of American Flying Fortress and Liberators which bombed the Eris Airplane Repair Works near that city yesterday.

The raid, said the broadcast, which was recorded by the Associated Press, caused the death of 221 persons and injured 385. The same source reported that casualties resulting from a night American air raid Sunday on the Renault armaments works near Paris had killed 300 persons and injured more than 700.

DNB, in a Berlin broadcast recorded by the Associated Press, asserted 180 children were trapped and killed in an Antwerp school during yesterday's raid. It said nineteen Allied planes were downed in the Antwerp track and elsewhere over occupied territory yesterday.

See NAZI CARGO on page 7

Big German Transports Shot Down In Tunisia

Temporary Lull In Land Fighting

By EDWARD KENNEDY
ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA.—(AP)—Thirty-one enemy planes, eighteen of them big Junkers transports, believed bearing gasoline and supplies to Marshal Rommel's Tunisian Army, were sent crashing into the sea by American Lightnings yesterday during one of the greatest air battles in this theater. In the course of the battle, which began with an Allied attack on a sea convoy, an enemy destroyer was blown-up and several other ships were hit and set ablaze, a communique from General Dwight D. Eisenhower's Headquarters announced.

SCORE: 46 TO 11
While land activities consisted of intense patrol operations with no major engagements developing, the air war continued at a fever pace and resulted in the shooting down of 48 German and Italian planes in this theater.

The heavy loss at vital Nazi air arteries in Tunisia came when fighting fighters escorted medium bombers on a sea sweep sighted an enormous force of all four Rommel's tanks and 25 transports over the Sicilian Straits about 25 miles north of Tunisia.

The Americans attacked and one of the biggest air battles ever seen in the Mediterranean was on. The Lightnings sent burst after burst of cannon fire into the big formations and sent planes spinning into the sea. Flames which burst from the planes when hit by the American pilots, indicated they were laden with gasoline and other supplies.

In addition to the eighteen transports, the fighters disposed of six dive bombers and seven opposing fighters. Captain Darrell G. Welch of the 34th Fighter Group was credited with the downing of three.

Germans Jittery

Report Eighth Army Poised To Strike

By ROGER GREENE
Associated Press War Editor
Nazi broadcasts rang out a note of alarm from Berlin today, declaring that British Eighth Army guns had started firing on the German front. The broadcasts also said that the British were preparing for a major offensive.

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